

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-17, 19, 21-29, and 54 are currently pending. Applicants note the Examiner's indication that claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-17, 19, 21-29, and 54 are allowed. Considering the indication that claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 12, 14, 30, and 35 lack antecedent basis, Applicants wish to point out the following:

The support for claims 2 and 5 may be found in the specification at page 7, lines 26-30 (citing published PCT Application No. WO2005087615) set forth below:

20 Each cam surface 1422 of the lever 1420 has a variable mechanical ratio
arranged such that until a pre-determined force is applied to the lever
1420 no significant force is transferred to the container 1430. In more
detail, each cam surface 1422 has a commitment portion 1423a which is
inclined at a first angle to the longitudinal axis X-X of the fluid discharge
25 device 1408 and a drive portion 1423b inclined to the longitudinal axis X-
X at a second angle which is greater than the first angle. The first angle
should be no less than approximately 20°, and is suitably in the range of
approximately 20-35°, more suitably approx. 20-26°, even more suitably
approx. 22-26°. The second angle may be in the range of approximately
30 40-60°, suitably approx. 40-50°, more suitably approx. 45°.

In light of this disclosure, Applicants assert that the specification is compliant with §1.75(d)(1) and MPEP 608.01(d) and withdrawal of the objection of claim 2 is under these circumstances appropriate.

Concerning pending claims 4 and 12, applicants have amended the paragraph spanning from page 2 to page 3 to indicate the claimed range of minimum actuating force in the description. Support for this language may be found in the application as filed. The lower range of 5 is found at page 2, line 29. The upper measure of 45N is found in originally filed claim 4, which forms part of the application's disclosure. The range of about 20-45N is found in originally filed claim 4. The range of 25-40N is found in originally filed Claim 12. As the entire specification as filed, including the description as well as the claims, forms the disclosure, it believed that no new matter is introduced via this amendment.

The support for claims 7 and 14 is found in application claims 7 and 14 as originally filed. To address the Examiner's concern, however, this language has also been included in the description of the invention by amendment to the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 4 (again referring to WO 2005 087615).

Concerning the Examiner's objection to claims 30 and 35, Applicants wish to point out that these claims are not pending and, therefore, the objections are unfounded.

In light of these comments and amendments, withdrawal of each of the objections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

CONCLUSION

All bases for the claim objections being addressed in full, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the outstanding objections and or rejections and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned, who can be reached at (919) 483-8022.

Respectfully submitted,

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